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Applicant:

Toshihiko Munetsugu et al.

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TO EXECUTE THE DATE PROCESSING METHOD"

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2100

Sir/Madam:

In accordance with Rule 56, applicants are aware of the publications listed in the Chinese Office action (copy enclosed) and in the enclosed copy of Patent Office Form 1449. A copy of each of the publications is enclosed herewith. The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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May 14, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

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